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Marketing and  
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Animal and Plant  
Health Inspection  
Service

Washington, DC  
20250

## VETERINARY SERVICES NOTICE 00-04

Subject: Veterinary Accreditation

To: Directors, Veterinary Services Regions  
Area Veterinarians in Charge

Effective January 1, 2000, the National Veterinary Accreditation Program (NVAP) of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) will no longer accept accreditation examination scores in place of participation in the program's core orientation in fulfillment of requirements for NVAP accreditation. Previously, passing the examination was a requirement for applicants seeking NVAP accreditation. However, as of November 23, 1992, the core orientation replaced the examination requirement. To ease the transition for applicants who had passed the examination, NVAP has been accepting the examination scores in place of participation in the core orientation.

The information provided in the core orientation is essential to the success of USDA's Veterinary Services programs, all of which aim to ensure public safety. Therefore, applicants for NVAP accreditation must attend a core orientation in order to become accredited, regardless of whether they previously have passed the accreditation examination.

To become accredited, applicants also must meet other requirements as outlined in Title 9, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 161.2. If you have any questions, please contact:

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